

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (cancelled).

Claim 2 (amended): A toner for MICR comprising at least a binder resin, magnetite particles and a wax, said magnetite particles comprising a mixture of granular ~~magnetite~~ and acicular magnetite,

wherein said granular magnetite has residual magnetization of 5-15 emu/g and saturation magnetization of 70-95 emu/g, and said acicular magnetite has residual magnetization of 20-50 emu/g and saturation magnetization of 70-95 emu/g,

wherein a ratio by weight of said acicular magnetite to ~~granular~~ granular magnetite is 0.1-0.5 to 1.0, and

wherein said magnetite particles are included in an amount of 15-50 % by weight in the toner.

Claim 3 (amended): A toner for MICR according to Claim 2, wherein said ~~wax~~ was wax is a hydrocarbon wax.

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Claim 4 (amended): A toner for MICR according to Claim 2, wherein said wax has a melting point measured by DSC of 60 - 100°C.

Claim 5 (amended): A toner for MICR according to Claim 4, wherein said ~~wax~~ was wax is Fischer-Tropsch wax.

Claim 6 (amended): A toner for MICR according to Claim 5, wherein said Fischer-Tropsch wax is Fischer-Tropsch wax ~~form~~ formed from natural gas.

Claim 7 (amended): A toner for MICR according to Claim 2, wherein said toner contains a charge controlling agent.

Claim 8 (amended): A toner for MICR according to Claim 7, wherein said charge controlling agent consists of at least two charge controlling materials, at least ~~one of~~ one of which is a chrome azo dye.

Claim 9 (previously amended): A toner for MICR according to Claim 2, wherein a silicone oil and an inorganic fine powder adhere to the surface of toner particles.

Claim 10 (original): A toner for MICR according to Claim 9, wherein the amount of said silicone oil is in a range of 0.01-0.5 % by weight.

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cont **Claim 11 (previously amended):** A toner for MICR according to Claim 9, wherein said inorganic fine powder consists of inorganic fine particles (A) having the reverse polarity to the toner particles and inorganic fine particles (B) having the same polarity as the toner.

Claim 12 (original): A toner for MICR according to Claim 11, wherein said inorganic fine powder is the powder of hydrophobic silica.

Claim 13 (amended): A toner for MICR according to Claim 11, wherein said inorganic fine particles (B) having the same polarity as the ~~toner~~ toner is hydrophobic silica having BET specific surface area in a range of 100-300m²/g.